

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 472 736

PS 031 008

TITLE Fatherhood Program: What Does the Fatherhood Program Mean to Me [and] 10 Ways To Be a Better Dad.

PUB DATE 1999-00-00

NOTE 8p.; Produced by the Georgia State Department of Human Resources, Office of Child Support Enforcement.

AVAILABLE FROM Office of Child Support Enforcement, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 20th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303. Tel: 404-657-3853; Fax: 404-657-1134; e-mail: Fatherhood_CSE@dhr.state.ga.us.

PUB TYPE Guides - Non-Classroom (055) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE EDRS Price MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS *Child Support; *Fathers; *Parent Child Relationship; Parent Education; Parent Materials; Parent Participation; *Parents; Program Descriptions; Social Support Groups; *State Programs

IDENTIFIERS Georgia; *Noncustodial Parents

ABSTRACT

This document is comprised of three brochures focusing on aspects of Georgia's Fatherhood Program, a program to promote increased involvement of non-custodial parents in their children lives. The first brochure highlights the goals and features of the program, which is open to any non-custodial parent paying child support and which offers job training in addition to parent support. The second brochure addresses the question: What does the Fatherhood Program mean to me?, explaining in greater detail the benefits of the program to participating parents and their children, as well as implications for the custodial parent. The third brochure highlights 10 ways to be a better father, including respecting the child's mother, earning the right to be heard, showing affection, and realizing that a father's job is never done. (HTH)

[Fatherhood Program: What Does the Fatherhood Program Mean to Me [and] 10 Ways To Be a Better Dad.]

**Georgia Department of Human
Resources, Office of Child Support
Enforcement.**

1999

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

- ☒ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
- ☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

- Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND
DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS
BEEN GRANTED BY

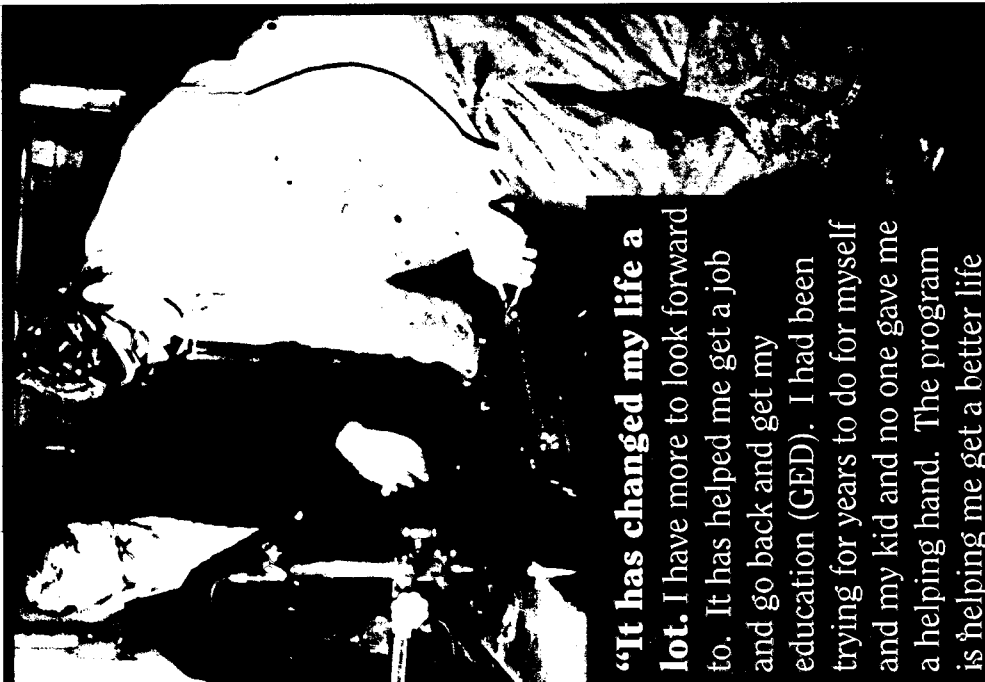
Gary Driggers

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

"I'm speaking with joy!
I'm on my feet. I'm taking
care of my sons and I've got
life focused in the right
direction. Don't be afraid
to call. The program didn't
cost me anything, but look
at what I've gained. This feels
good."

*Program Graduate, Carolyn
Creswell, February*

3

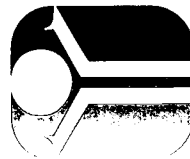


**"It has changed my life a
lot.** I have more to look forward
to. It has helped me get a job
and go back and get my
education (GED). I had been
trying for years to do for myself
and my kid and no one gave me
a helping hand. The program
is helping me get a better life
for my kid."

*Program Graduate, Valdesa
Merry Kearney*

"The Fatherhood Program is
working hard to involve fathers
in the lives of their children.
We need strong families to have
a strong Georgia and a working,
productive father is one of the
keys to achieving strong families."

Governor Roy Barnes

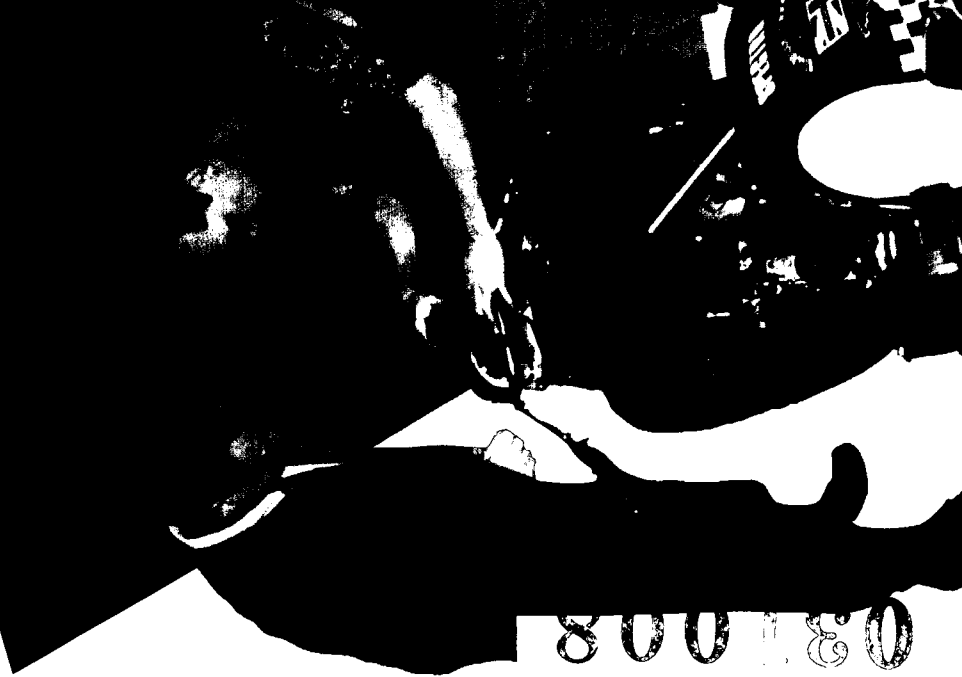


Department of Human Resources
Division of Family and Children Services
Child Support Enforcement

Two Peachtree Street, N.W.
Suite 20-445
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 657-3851

Form 5768 (5-99)

THE FATHERHOOD PROGRAM



**Georgia
Department
of
Human Resources**

The Georgia Fatherhood Program



is operated by the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) Section of the Georgia Department of Human Resources. The program works with non-custodial parents who have a case with CSE and are unable to pay their child support.

Who can get help?

Any non-custodial parent paying child support through CSE:

- who is unemployed
- who is employed, but earns less than \$20,000 per year
- who has children receiving TANF
- who lacks a high school diploma or GED

What does the program offer?

The program offers job skills training, job placement, the opportunity to earn a GED, counseling and a chance to play a supportive role in the lives of their children.



Goals of the Fatherhood Program:

- Increased involvement of non-custodial parents in their children's lives
- Regular child support payments, especially to families receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Taxpayer savings through reductions in TANF, Medicaid and prison costs

What kind of job training is offered?

The selection of training classes varies from school to school based on the industries and jobs available in that area. Classes are offered in such topics as heating and air conditioning repair, commercial driver's license, welding, computer repair, automotive repair, carpentry and appliance repair.

Is there other training involved?

Yes. Participants are required to attend classes on life coping skills such as how to interview for a job, keep a job and manage finances. Other classes are provided to strengthen parenting skills, learn about child development and help them explore ways to be more involved in their children's lives.



How much

does it cost to be in this program?

The program is free to all participants.

Where is the program offered?

CSE has a contract with the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education to provide job training and other services at each of Georgia's 33 technical institutions and at three colleges with technical divisions. This means that the Fatherhood Program is available within 50 miles of every Georgian.

Where do I go to sign-up?

Contact your local Child Support Enforcement office or call 1-888-4-FATHER for the telephone number of the office which handles your case.

"I feel like loving and nurturing my children is not hard. I can do that with ease. But providing child support and health insurance for them is harder. I need the skills to be able to provide for them in a better sense."

Ian Skyles,
Program Graduate, Atlanta

**he non-custodial parent be allowed
t my child(ren) if he/she is
participating in this program?**

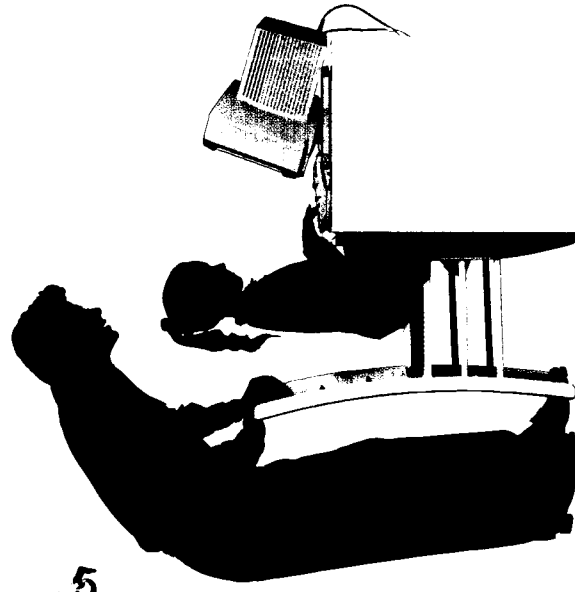
One of the goals of the Fatherhood

Program is to promote more parental involvement by the non-custodial parent with his/her children. Part of the program includes classes to learn about parenting skills. CSE also has the Child Access and Visitation Program which works with non-custodial parents who want to visit with their children.

**How can a custodial parent get this same
kind of help?**

Contact your county Department of Family and Children Services or your local technical college to obtain information on the programs available to you.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



CSE Hotline - toll free 1-800-227-7993 or 404-657-2780
Georgia Fatherhood Program - toll free 1-888-432-8437

“The Fatherhood Program is working hard to involve fathers in the lives of their children. We need strong families to have a strong Georgia and a working, productive father is one of the keys to achieving strong families.”

Governor Roy Barnes



**GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN RESOURCES**

Department of Human Resources
Office of Child Support Enforcement

**Two Peachtree Street, N.W.
Suite 20-445
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 657-3851**

Form 5705

What Does the Fatherhood Program Mean to Me?

A Custodial Parents Overview



**Georgia
Department
of
Human Resources**

View of the Georgia Fatherhood Program

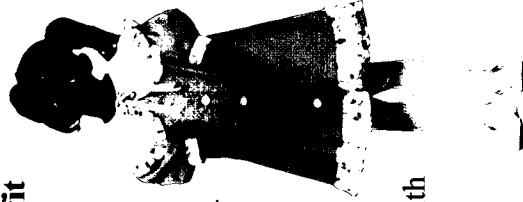
The Georgia Department of Human Resources' Office of Child Support Enforcement (CSE) operates the Georgia Fatherhood Services Network. CSE has found that many men want to support their children, but lack the education and/or job skills needed to get a job that pays enough to live on and pay their child support. The program provides education, training and job placement for non-custodial parents who have a case with CSE and are unable to pay their child support.

Goals of the Fatherhood Program:

- Regular child support payments, especially to families receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).
- Increased involvement of the non-custodial parent in their children's lives.
- Taxpayer savings through reductions in TANF, Medicaid and prison costs.

How will this program benefit me and my child(ren)?

The program provides job training and life skills training which will help the non-custodial parent to obtain long-term employment. Regular child support payments will then be deducted from his salary and mailed to you. Most employers also offer health insurance for their employee's children.



How long does the non-custodial parent participate in the program?

In most instances, a participant in the program will receive job training and job placement within four to six months. However, in some cases the non-custodial parent will need to take classes to obtain his/her GED before he/she can be placed in a job. Helping them to complete their education or deal with possible other problems such as alcohol or substance abuse may extend his/her participation in the program to one or two years. Each non-custodial parent is assessed when they start the program to determine what needs they may have. A plan is created to help them so that they can complete the program as soon as possible.

Is the non-custodial parent required to work while he/she is in the program?

Yes. All participants in the program are required to work at least 20 hours per week and pay at least half of their court ordered child support. If he/she is unemployed when they start the program, he/she has 30 days to find at least a part time job and begin paying child support.

When will I start getting my child support payments?

If you were already receiving child support, that will not stop. If you were not receiving child support payments, you can expect payments to begin within 90 days of his/her enrollment in the program.

Will there be an increase in my child support payments when the non-custodial parent completes the program?

The goal of the program is for you to receive regular child support payments according to your court order. If the non-custodial parent gets a job making more money than his previous job, then you can ask CSE to review your case to see whether your payments should increase.

The purpose of the review is to determine by legal process if the non-custodial parent should be paying a different amount of child support.



What happens if the non-custodial parent drops out of the program?

If the non-custodial parent fails to participate in the program and he is not paying child support as ordered, he will be referred back to the CSE caseworker for action.

Eat Together as a Family

Sharing a meal together (breakfast, lunch or dinner) can be an important part of a healthy family life. In addition to providing some structure in a busy day, it gives kids the chance to talk about what they are doing and want to do. It is also a good time for fathers to listen and give advice. Most importantly, it is a time for families to be together each day.

Read to Your Children

In a world where television often dominates the lives of children, it is important that fathers make the effort to read to their children. Children learn best by doing and reading, as well as seeing and hearing. Begin reading to your children when they are very young. When



they are older, encourage them to read on their own. Instilling your children with a love for reading is one of the best ways to ensure they will have a lifetime of personal and career growth.

Show Affection

Children need the security that comes from knowing they are wanted, accepted and loved by their family. Parents, especially fathers, need to feel both comfortable and willing to hug their children. Showing affection every day is the best way to let your children know that you love them.



Realize That A Father's Job is Never Done

Even after children are grown and ready to leave home, they will still look to their fathers for wisdom and advice. Whether

it's continued schooling, a new job or a wedding, fathers continue to play an essential part in the lives of their children as they grow and, perhaps marry and build their own families.



For more information, contact:

Office of Child Support
Enforcement
2 Peachtree Street NW
20th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303

tel: 404-657-3851

fax: 404-657-1134

Hotline: 1-800-4-FATHER

Fatherhood_CSE@dhr.state.ga.us



Form 5602

Fathers change the world
one child at a time.

800 1 800 4 FATHER

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Respect Your Children's Mother

One of the best things a father can do for his children is to respect their mother. If you are married, keep your marriage strong and vital.

If you're not married, it is still important to respect and support the mother of your children.

A father and mother who respect each other, and let their children know it, provide a secure environment for them. When children see their parents respecting each other, they are more likely to feel that they are also accepted and respected.



Spend Time with Your Children

How a father spends his time tells his children what's important to him. If you always seem too busy for your children, they will feel neglected no matter what you say. Treasuring children often means sacrificing other things, but it is essential to spend time with your

80

children. Kids grow up so quickly. Missed opportunities are forever lost.



Earn the Right To Be Heard

All too often the only time a father speaks to his children is when they have done something wrong. That's why so many children cringe when their mother says, "Your father wants to talk to you." Begin talking with your kids when they are very young. Subjects will be easier to handle as they get older. Take time to listen to their ideas and problems.



Discipline With Love

All children need guidance and discipline, not as punishment, but to set reasonable limits. Remind your children of the consequences of their actions and provide meaningful rewards for desirable behaviors. Fathers who discipline in a calm and fair manner show love for their children.



Be A Role Model

Fathers are role models to their kids, whether they realize it or not. A girl who spends time with a loving father grows up knowing she deserves to be treated with respect by boys, and what to look



Be A Teacher

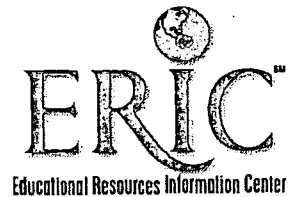
Too many fathers think teaching is something others do. But a father who teaches his children about right and wrong, and encourages them to do their best, will see his children make good choices. Involved fathers use everyday examples to help their children learn the basic lessons of life.



BEST COPY AVAILABLE



U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
National Library of Education (NLE)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)



REPRODUCTION RELEASE

(Specific Document)

I. DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION:

Title: *What Does the Fatherhood Program Mean to Me?*

Author(s): *GA Office of Child Support Enforcement*

Corporate Source:

Publication Date:

1999

II. REPRODUCTION RELEASE:

In order to disseminate as widely as possible timely and significant materials of interest to the educational community, documents announced in the monthly abstract journal of the ERIC system, *Resources in Education* (RIE), are usually made available to users in microfiche, reproduced paper copy, and electronic media, and sold through the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). Credit is given to the source of each document, and, if reproduction release is granted, one of the following notices is affixed to the document.

If permission is granted to reproduce and disseminate the identified document, please CHECK ONE of the following three options and sign at the bottom of the page.

The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 1 documents

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Sample

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

1

Level 1



Check here for Level 1 release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche or other ERIC archival media (e.g., electronic) and paper copy.

The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 2A documents

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE, AND IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA FOR ERIC COLLECTION SUBSCRIBERS ONLY, HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Sample

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

2A

Level 2A



Check here for Level 2A release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche and in electronic media for ERIC archival collection subscribers only

The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 2B documents

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE ONLY HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Sample

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

2B

Level 2B



Check here for Level 2B release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche only

Documents will be processed as indicated provided reproduction quality permits.
If permission to reproduce is granted, but no box is checked, documents will be processed at Level 1.

I hereby grant to the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) nonexclusive permission to reproduce and disseminate this document as indicated above. Reproduction from the ERIC microfiche or electronic media by persons other than ERIC employees and its system contractors requires permission from the copyright holder. Exception is made for non-profit reproduction by libraries and other service agencies to satisfy information needs of educators in response to discrete inquiries.

Signature:

Gary Driggers

Printed Name/Position/Title:

Gary Driggers

Organization/Address:

*2 Peachtree Street, 20th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303*

Telephone:

404-657-3853

FAX:

404-657-1134

E-Mail Address:

Date:

2-14-03

Sign
here, →
please

Fatherhood Mailing - 2003 rgdrigge@dhrr.state.ga.us

(Over)



III. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY INFORMATION (FROM NON-ERIC SOURCE):

If permission to reproduce is not granted to ERIC, or, if you wish ERIC to cite the availability of the document from another source, please provide the following information regarding the availability of the document. (ERIC will not announce a document unless it is publicly available, and a dependable source can be specified. Contributors should also be aware that ERIC selection criteria are significantly more stringent for documents that cannot be made available through EDRS.)

Publisher/Distributor:
Address:
Price:

IV. REFERRAL OF ERIC TO COPYRIGHT/REPRODUCTION RIGHTS HOLDER:

If the right to grant this reproduction release is held by someone other than the addressee, please provide the appropriate name and address:

Name:
Address:

V. WHERE TO SEND THIS FORM:

Send this form to the following ERIC Clearinghouse:	Karen E. Smith, Assistant Director ERIC/EECE Children's Research Center University of Illinois 51 Gerty Dr. Champaign, IL 61820-7469
---	---

However, if solicited by the ERIC Facility, or if making an unsolicited contribution to ERIC, return this form (and the document being contributed) to:

ERIC Processing and Reference Facility
4483-A Forbes Boulevard
Lanham, Maryland 20706

Telephone: 301-552-4200
Toll Free: 800-799-3742
FAX: 301-552-4700
e-mail: ericfac@inet.ed.gov
WWW: <http://ericfacility.org>